

125517 (GEM-0071)

REMARKS

The above-identified case is presently under an Advisory Action dated February 8, 2006, following a Final Action dated October 25, 2005, and a Response to Final Action dated December 21, 2005.

On March 2, 2006, Applicant's Attorney David Arnold initiated a teleconference with the Examiner to discuss the Advisory Action dated February 8, 2006, and more specifically to discuss the continuation sheet of the same, which denied entry of the limitations added to Claims 10 and 18 because they allegedly raised new issues not presented before and therefore required further search to determine patentability.

During the March 2, 2006, teleconference, Applicant's Attorney pointed out that the amendments to Claims 10 and 18 merely added limitations that were originally found in dependent claims, which had already been examined in a previous office action, and therefore should be added because they did not raise new issues not presented before.

During the March 2, 2006, teleconference, the Examiner agreed that the amendments should be entered and agreed to submit a Supplemental Advisory Action to enter the amendments, but to still hold the rejection final. The Examiner indicated that the Supplemental Advisory Action would be mailed by March 6, 2006, and that the time for reply would be measured from the mail date of the Supplemental Advisory Action.

On March 21, 2006, Applicant's Attorney David Arnold, after waiting a reasonable period of time for the mailing of the aforementioned Supplemental Advisory Action and after reviewing PAIR, which indicated that the Supplemental Advisory Action had not been mailed, initiated a second teleconference with the Examiner to discuss the absence of the aforementioned Supplemental Advisory Action.

During the March 21, 2006, teleconference, the Examiner reaffirmed that the aforementioned amendments would be entered and again agreed to submit a Supplemental Advisory Action to enter the amendments, but to still hold the rejection final. The Examiner indicated that the Supplemental Advisory Action would be mailed by March 22, 2006, and that the time for reply would be measured from the mail date of the Supplemental Advisory Action.

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On March 27, 2006, Applicant's Attorney David Arnold, after waiting a reasonable period of time for the mailing of the aforementioned Supplemental Advisory Action and after reviewing PAIR, which still indicates that the Supplemental Advisory Action has not been mailed, hereby respectfully and more formally requests that the Examiner prepare and mail the aforementioned Supplemental Advisory Action in accordance with his earlier comments.

In view of the Final Action having a mail date of October 25, 2005, and Applicant's Response to the Final Action being mailed December 21, 2005, Applicant respectfully requests a timely response to this Letter to the Examiner in order to avoid abandonment subsequent to April 25, 2006.

If a communication with Applicant's Attorneys would assist in advancing this case to allowance, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned so that any such issues may be promptly resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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